

WE CLAIM:

1. A cat toy comprising:
a flexible elongated tube having a first end, a second end and a middle portion, the middle portion having an exterior surface and an interior surface, and the elongated tube made from a crinkly plastic film molded to a tubular shaped coiled wire scaffolding, wherein movement of a cat or other pet within the elongated tube causes the emission of noise from the crinkly plastic film.
2. The cat toy of claim 1 further comprising a fabric layer attached to the interior surface of the middle portion of the elongated tube.
3. The cat toy of claim 2 further comprising a fabric layer attached to the exterior surface of the middle portion of the elongated tube.
4. The cat toy of claim 3 wherein the fabric layer attached to both the interior and exterior surfaces of the middle portion is selected from the group consisting of nylon, cotton, rayon, and polyester.
5. The cat toy of claim 1 wherein the flexible elongated tube defines at least one air hole.
6. The cat toy of claim 1 wherein the flexible elongated tube has a substantially circular cross section and the diameter of the elongated tube is from 10 to 20 inches.
7. The cat toy of claim 1 further comprising a removable cover piece, wherein the cover piece covers either the first or second end of the flexible elongated tube.
8. The cat toy of claim 1 wherein the crinkly plastic material is polyethylene.
9. The cat toy of claim 1 wherein catnip is suspended from an interior surface of the middle portion.

10. The cat toy of claim 1 wherein the flexible elongated tube is from 24 to 72 inches in length when extended.

11. The cat toy of claim 10 wherein the flexible elongated tube is from 36 to 60 inches in length when extended.

12. The cat toy of claim 1 wherein the tubular shaped coiled wire scaffolding is a spring-steel coiled wire.

13. A method of fabricating a cat toy, the method comprising the steps of:
providing a spring-steel coiled wire;
molding a crinkly plastic film to the spring-steel coiled wire to form a flexible elongated tube having an interior passage; and
attaching a cloth layer to the interior passage; and

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising attaching a second cloth layer to an exterior surface of the flexible elongated tube.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising forming at least one air hole through the elongated tube.